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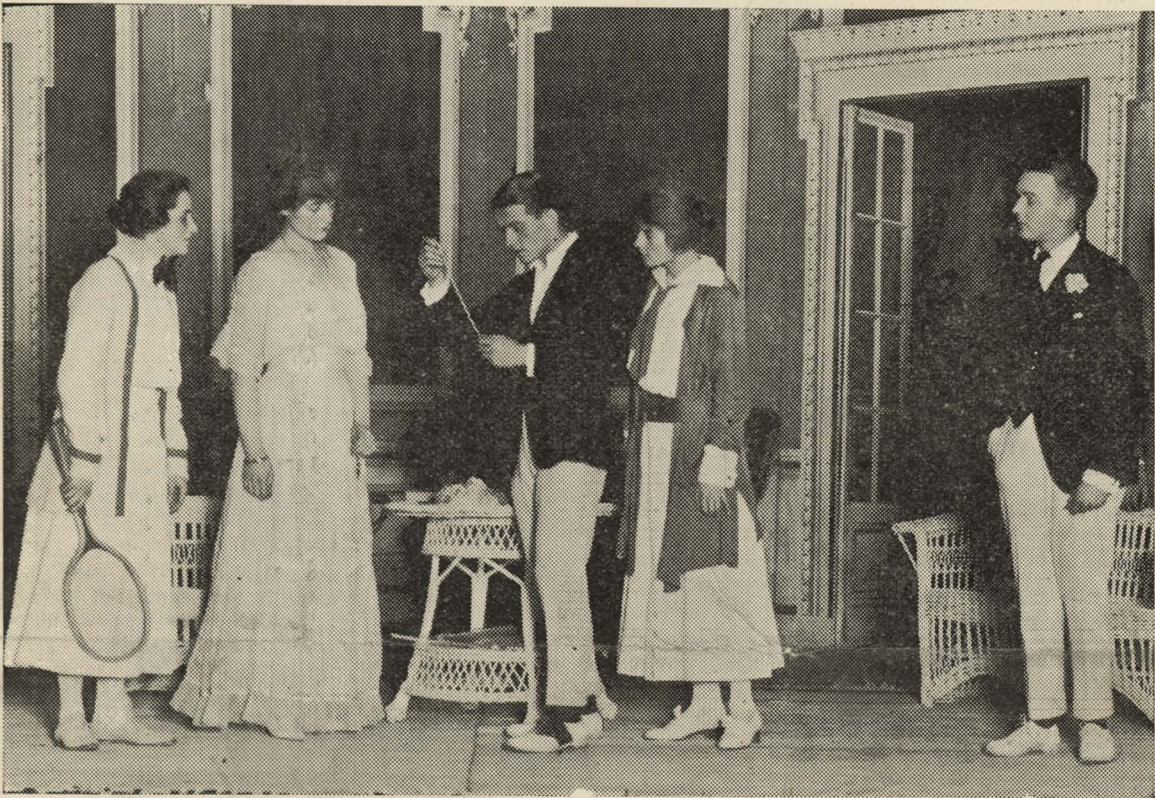
VOL. XII—No. 24

HARTFORD, CONN., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1915

PRICE FIVE CENTS

"A GENTLEMAN OF LEISURE."

JESTERS SCORE ANOTHER SUCCESS IN MODERN PLAY FOR BENEFIT OF SPRUCE STREET SETTLEMENT.



Miss Caroline Parker

Miss Elizabeth Beach

R. S. Barthelmess

Miss Frances Williams

Einer Sather

It is, increasingly, a pleasure for the dramatic critic of the *Tripod* to "take his pen in hand" to criticise the production of the Jesters. Still more so is it a pleasure, since he witnessed the inception of that organization, and has seen its steady growth in power and smoothness since that time. He is therefore aware that the present high level of perfection did not spring spontaneously into being, a happy combination evolved by chance, but is the result of arduous and intelligent labor.

The play, "A Gentleman of Leisure" by John Stapleton and P. S. Woodhouse, served as a vehicle for Douglas Fairbanks and Ruth Shepley some three or four years ago, and in contrast to the last two offerings of the Jesters is of extremely modern cut. It deals with the adventures and misadventures of Robert Edgar Willoughby Pitt, who has just returned from Europe haunted by a face and a tune, both, strange as it may seem, associated with a girl, beg pardon, *the* girl. But Robert Edgar Willoughby, etc., in his delirium neglected to complete the triad by associating a name with the delectable two. So in spite of the party in his honor that is in full blast at the rise of the curtain, he is in the proper frame of mind to take on a freak bet, that he can "burgle" a house and get away with it.

By the merest chance it happens

that this is the particular evening selected by "Spike" Mullins for a promenade on the fire escape just outside of Pitt's room. His entrance surprises Bob who has sunk into a reverie of faces and tunes, but there was never a hero yet who allowed a little thing like a burglar to feaze him, and so after a short struggle "Spike" is disarmed. But instead of turning him over to the police, Bob invites "Spike" to go "burgling" with him, promising to show him the "scientific way." And off they go, "two merry little burglars."

As you have no doubt already guessed, Wise Reader, Act II introduces us to the home of *the* girl which is the house to be "burgled". But not even you, Wisest of Readers, could have imagined that her father was "Big Phil" Creedon, Commissioner of Police. For the tip that "Spike" received had been given him "with malice aforethought" by a certain "big, fat Swede," who has a very hot time coming to him one of these days. At Mollie's home are Sir Thomas Blunt and his wife, who are planning to marry their nephew, Sir Spencer Dreever, to Mollie, much against the will of those most concerned. But they prevail upon her to be their guest at a house party the next week.

After their departure, Mollie also becomes pensive about faces and tunes (which augurs well for Act IV), when in come our "two merry little

burglars". Very few girls have the double advantage of being both a heroine and the daughter of a Commissioner of Police that is hers. But great is the astonishment and dismay of both Bob and Mollie to find that each is "the face" associated with "the tune." Mutual explanations follow in which it devolves that Bob and his man had followed someone into the basement window, who had succeeded in eluding them in the dark. This explanation would have been perfectly satisfactory to Miss Creedon had not her father inopportunely arrived and recognized "Spike". "Spike" still further incriminates his partner by confessing that Bob was, as he supposed, a well-known English cracksmen. Creedon thereupon sets a deadline between Pitt and his daughter, and advises him "to come across", but not across the line, which Bob promises to do.

The third act gives some insight as to what happens "When the enterprising burglars not a-burgling, and the cut-throats not engaged in any crime," for it is a gay house party at "The Gables." The affair between Bob and Mollie seems to be progressing favorably when "Big Phil" again appears. As "Spike" pensively remarks, "There's something about that guy, that I don't like," and his apprehension is apparently justified for Creedon im-

(Continued on page 3.)

MUSICAL CLUBS.

Concert at the Hartford Retreat.

Tuesday evening the Glee and Mandolin Clubs gave their third concert at the Hartford Retreat. The work was by far the best that has been done this season. The soloists of the evening performed exceptionally well. Spofford's voice had its usual pleasing quality. Pierce produced wonderful tone on the 'cello; and Perkins played the xylophone in fine form. The College Quartette, on account of the absence of Harding and Grime, was composed of Morris, Spofford, Plummer, and Redfield.

A concert is to be given in Rockville the week after the Christmas holidays and the men will journey to Norwich on January 14. Other concerts will follow.

The complete list of the men in the combined musical clubs is as follows: Glee Club—Morris, Harding, Schmitt, Beers, Kramer, Perkins, Niles, Wadlund, Johnson, Grime, Redfield, Nordstrom, Sturman, Forbes, Mitchell, Linton, Tree, Easland, Brill, Kenney, Shepherd, Spofford, Plummer, Pierce, Fenton, Parsons, and Bofird; Mandolin Club—Craig, Randall, Hatch, Hungerford, Holden, Mitchell, Cahill, Plummer, De Witt, Wooster, Fenton, Wilson, Pierce, Parsons, Spencer, Wyse, Brandt, and Perkins.

The program of the Retreat concert follows:

- 1 'Neath the Elms A. P. Burgwin, '82
Glee Club
- 2 Live Wire March.
Mandolin Club
- 3 College Songs.
Glee Club
- 4 Vocal Solo.
Mr. C. B. Spofford, '16.
- 5 Selections.
Trinity College Quartette.
Messrs. Morris, '16, Spofford, '16,
Redfield, '18, Plummer, '16.
- 6 Xylophone Solo.
Mr. C. H. Perkins, '16
- 7 a Toast. Waters, '87
b Lullaby Brahms
Glee Club
- 8 'Cello Solo, "To an Evening Star"
Wagner
Mr. Roderic Pierce, '16
- 9 Salut d'Amour Elgar
Mandolin Club
- 10 There's a College on the Hill.
Waters, '87
Combined Clubs

COLLEGE NOTES.

A paper by Professor Stonex, entitled "The Usurer in Elizabethan Drama," is to read by title, at the meeting of the Modern Language Association of America to be held at Cleveland, Ohio, December 28-30, 1915.

SECOND JUNIOR SMOKER.

The second of this year's series of Junior Smokers will be held at the I. K. A. House on Monday, December 20, at quarter past seven. Dr. Stonex will speak.

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The Tripod

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to alumni, undergraduates and others for the free
discussion of matters of interest to Trinity men.

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"NOW THEN TRINITY"

In this issue we are printing a communication from an alumnus who criticises our editorial of December 14 in regard to prohibiting "contract baseball." Mr. Foss evidently believes that our course has been determined by a fear of losing a suitable schedule for future teams. He is absolutely wrong in taking such a motive for granted. Our ideas are based upon a desire for clean sport. We believe that Trinity should try to attain the highest ideals possible, regardless of the hypocrisy existing in other institutions.

Mr. Foss implies that we are "backing down on our stand." Perhaps we are backing down on the past stand of the college, but we believe we are reaching a more creditable position. There is such a thing as progress in the college world as well as in the big one. Where would the Christian religion be today if certain men in the past hadn't "backed down" on certain superstitions? We have been fighting mainly for Trinity's honor in an effort to clear her from the stigma of underhandedness. We have never believed her infallible or a model of purity. After much thought we have decided that our critics are right so far as concerns "contract baseball", and other forms of professionalism with the exception of "summer baseball". Mr. Foss is entitled to criticize our judgment, but not our motives.

The attention of the *Tripod* has been called to its failure to give credit to the *Courant* for cuts used in previous issues.

It takes the present opportunity to do so.

The average student at Trinity, as well as elsewhere, is a comparatively honest man. He doesn't steal. He doesn't believe in lying. If he borrows anything he feels it to be incumbent upon him to return the article when he happens to remember it. All these virtues the Trinity man possesses; yet he does crib in examinations. Somehow or other the circumstance of cheating has been omitted from his list of practices which are to be decried.

The prevalence of this particular form of dishonesty at Trinity is rather alarming. It shows that the fine distinctions of honor which existed in our fathers' time have begun to be eradicated in our own rushing age. It shows that our finer instincts have become subordinated to our ambitions. "Avoid failure at any cost" is our slogan, and the Trinity undergraduate uses it to justify his irregular manner of passing tests and examinations.

If you should question one of these men whether he considered cribbing to be dishonorable he would probably answer off-hand:

"Certainly not. It's all in the game."

But when you press the point further, perhaps he will begin to squirm a little, and even get a little angry at you for doubting his motives. He just can't help that ancestral conscience of his which modern life is endeavoring to smother. At the bottom of his heart he knows that cheating in examinations is dishonorable, but he doesn't want to know it. He likes to believe what is conducive to his worldly ends.

Whether or not the Trinity student realizes the moral wrong involved in the practice, cribbing is dishonest. It involves the very fundamentals of deceit. In accepting a passing mark acquired through illegally received knowledge a man tacitly affirms his right to the grade—a negative form of lying fully as bad as a direct falsehood. Not only this, but the cheating undergraduate, under false pretences, achieves a position in the class sometimes above that of a conscientious fellow whose brains are not up to the standard of his honesty. All the forms of fair play are violated.

The apparent value of a college degree has become lessened in late years as a result of promiscuous cribbing. If not won by honest labor it becomes a source of reproach rather than of praise. When a man works to attain an end he wishes to win something which only worth can gain. Incentive is removed when a prize may be gained by deceit.

Trinity men should think. They should realize that their moral self is being continually weakened by the deceit which they encourage. Men who do not themselves crib should try not to give information when asked for it. It is a hard thing to do, but the right one. Undergraduate dishonesty has proceeded to a point where it must be checked.

The Jesters have completed another brilliant season, concerning which our dramatic critic has commented in another part of the paper. All we can do is to congratulate Mrs. Perkins, the cast, and all who had anything to do with the performance, in regard to their sterling work upon "The Gentleman of Leisure." The Trinity dramatic association ranks with the best in the country, and we are proud of it.

COMMUNICATION.

Willimantic, Conn., Dec. 15, 1915.

To the Editors of the *Tripod*:

I wish to voice my protest to your editorial in the issue of December 14, just received, in regard to professional baseball and the athletic situation, and I hope all who agree with me will express themselves on the subject through letters or otherwise, that we may know how the alumni stand on this subject.

I confess it comes as a distinct shock to one who has through the adverse criticism of the past football season, stoutly maintained the justice of Trinity's stand, and that of our beloved president, that scholarship and bona fide matriculation are the only essentials necessary for competing on Trinity's teams, to have the college publication at this late date make a sophistic exception of "professional baseball", and practically admit that our critics were correct in the case to which they objected.

Almost every newspaper which started out to "roast" the college ended by admiring our consistency. Are we now to exhibit a complete about-face with the season ended, and our purpose attained?

If, as may be, we are compelled to relinquish somewhat of our ideals of democracy by conceding something or other, perhaps this very "professional baseball" hobby, in order to enter the proposed New England league, or otherwise keep our schedule with natural rivals, let us do it not by backing down in our stand, but by saying "we do not believe as you do, but will concede on our part, if you will do the same".

To argue that because a man once signs as a "professional", he is forever debarred from changing his mind is refreshing, to say the least. It is the argument for capital punishment; it is the argument against the indeterminate sentence; it is, in short, a reversion toward old ideals, old thought.

But my main objection to the stand proposed is that it is, as has been stated in your columns before, undemocratic and illogical, and an entering wedge for all the intricacies and sophistries of the athletic question as at present exhibited throughout the college world, without at all touching upon the real point to be guarded against, which is, the offering of inducements to a man to enter college; to say nothing of the hypocrisies and deceptions of the present system.

Let "Old Trinity" stand ever for the right, and concede nothing of principle, if necessary, for a proper schedule, keeping our beliefs, and trying to gain others to them. The right course is always a straight line, not a crooked one.

FRANK HALSEY FOSS,
Trinity, 1901.

NEWS OF THE ALUMNI.

'85—George Peaslee Shears, M. D., a member of the class of 1885, died suddenly at his home in New York City, on Sunday, December 12. He studied medicine at New York University, and was an acknowledged authority on obstetrics, in which department he has been instructor in the Cornell Medical School and in the New York Polytechnic Medical School.

CHANGE IN TRIPOD BOARD.

Buffington Chosen Alumni Editor.

Owing to the pressure of collegiate work, J. B. Barnwell, '17, has resigned from his position of Alumni Editor of the *Tripod*. J. Buffington, '18, has been elected to the position. Buffington was formerly an Associate Editor.

"A GENTLEMAN OF LEISURE."*(Continued from page 1.)*

mediately accuses Bob of being a crook. Before the latter can defend himself, Lady Blunt rushes in with the news that her pearls have been stolen. It was all too true, for "Spike", for whom the allure of "the illuminating bric-a-brac" had proved too strong, had "collared de poils." Suspicion is immediately directed against Bob, and is further confirmed, for Mollie at least, when she comes upon Bob, with them in his hand, after taking them from "Spike".

But though she believes him guilty, she does care enough for him to help him escape immediate search, and to follow him to his rooms to recover them. This she does in time to slip them into Lady Blunt's bag, where they are eventually found.

Any disbelief of the genuineness of this recovery that might have been lingering in the mind of Sir Thomas is dissipated by the warning that Pitt is aware that they are really but imitations. And when Bob, launched in his career of crime, announces that he intends to steal Mollie, the curtain falls on the interesting problem of whether a man can steal that which is already his.

So far, so easy; now for the real work. After three years the Critic finds that most of his adjectives and not a few of his adverbs are very badly worn. It is a great pity, for most of them were pretty good at one time. But they have done yeoman's service, and maybe some of them can be smoothed off and polished up enough to make one more appearance. "Lay on MacDuff, and damned be he who first cries 'Hold, Enough'."

R. S. Barthelmess, '17, is the "Gentleman of Leisure," and though he has very little leisure, he makes up for it by being very much a gentleman. It is so naturally and unaffectedly played that there is a temptation to say "Why this isn't acting at all," which is just the most difficult kind of acting for "Ars artem celare." It is a real pleasure to observe how carefully and delicately lines and situations are handled by him.

Probably the most obviously appealing part is that of "Spike" Mullins, played by J. F. Maher, '19. It abounds in clever lines and gives opportunity for almost unlimited by-play. It was utilized to its fullest. Especially should it receive more credit since this is Maher's first appearance in college dramatics.

Still another new and valuable addition to the Jesters is N. B. Holmes, '18, who took the part of "Big Phil" Creedon. And it was the impression of bigness both physical and vitally that he gave. That the performance was given while fighting off a severe attack of grippe cannot but add to its merit.

Either the Directors of the Dramatics have recognized unusual talent or villainy, like murder "will out". R. B. O'Connor, '16, has been playing villains, or, at best, semi-villains, since the days of "7-20-8." In this play he appears as Sir Thomas Blunt, the scheming Englishman who attempts to marry off his nephew to the Creedon fortune. Some day he will (or should) write "The Compleat Villain" and retire on the proceeds. The book to be "compleat" should contain an illustra-

tion of the fearful and wonderful costume worn in the third and fourth acts. It is indeed a work of art, well worth the contemplating.

To Einer Sather, '17, has been given the role of Sir Spencer Dreever, whom his uncle is trying to marry to Mollie Creedon. The part is such a brainless one that it requires brainwork of rather a high order to play it intelligently. And it is handled unusually well.

The mainspring of the plot, in that he furnished the motive in suggesting the bet, is T. B. Clement, '17, as Clarence Machlin, an actor. The role is played smoothly and with assurance.

The other friends of Pitt, Joseph Sutton, (F. B. Coyle, '16), Dana Willetts (E. A. Astlett, '18), and George Fuller (Joseph Buffington, Jr., '18), contribute much to the spirit and atmosphere of the first and last acts. Especially commendable is the scene in which the toast to crime is drunk. To have attained such perfection and mastery of detail must have entailed hours of labor and gallons (is toast measured by the gallon or pound?) of toasts. But it carried conviction.

The part of Walter Langdon, a house guest at the "Gables" fell to the lot of G. H. Segur, '19. It required little more than his presence on the stage during much of the third act.

An even more speechless part was that of Coleman, a Central Office man, played by S. W. Shepherd, Jr., '19. His one line was, however, rendered with an energy and decision that marked him as a man of action rather than speech.

It is not given to every actor to be his own critic, nor may every critic demonstrate how he would have interpreted a part. The resultant struggle for mastery has left the critic in command, though somewhat wobbly on his pins. In the role of the critic then, Ponderby, (Aminadab too—now honestly, isn't that "an 'ell of a name for a sportin' cove"?) was played with all the gravity and presence it required, by Alfred Harding, Jr., '16.

That finishes the men, (and very nearly finishes the critic, too). In coming to the feminine members of the cast, perhaps it would not be amiss to congratulate Miss Frances Williams on the way that she has retained her youth. Not so very long ago she was the Princess Elizabeth, in the year of Grace fifteen hundred and fifty something; later she was Mistress Bessie Dyke, some two hundred and fifty years older, but if anything even more charming. And now that she is completely up to date, although she cannot be less than four hundred and sixty or seventy-five years old, she is more delightful than ever. Indeed she has scarcely aged as much as Miss Elizabeth Beach, Lady Blunt (lately Lady Fitzherbert), who is hardly more than two hundred and seventy-five years old. Miss Williams improves upon acquaintance. Her enunciation and delivery have always been excellent, but there has been a continued growth in reserve power and sureness of characterization that has been a pleasure to observe.

Lady Blunt in the hands of Miss Elizabeth Beach is very much the grand dame. It was a delicate part and one that might have been spoiled very easily by over emphasis, but it was played with a poise and charm, that lent it great distinction. Miss Beach is another member who was not

content to "let well enough alone", and who improved on her already good performance of last year.

To be full of life and energy and constantly on the point of exploding with the sheer joy of living, is not always as easy as it sounds. Especially is this true for an actress who is making her first appearance. Yet Miss Caroline Parker as Miss Wolff conveyed that impression, throughout the whole time she was on the stage.

Miss Belden, played by Miss Lisbeth Urban, had nothing to do but be ornamental. Fortunately, this was in no way difficult of accomplishment.

But first, foremost, and all of the time, the chief credit must be given to Mrs. H. A. Perkins, the Director and Good Genius of the Jesters. Just how much dramatics at Trinity owe to Mrs. Perkins will never be fully realized until the Jesters have to do without her assistance (May that day be long in coming!) Some of the work this year was very kindly undertaken by Professor E. F. MacDonald, of the English Department, but it was Mrs. Perkins who was again the chief source of inspiration and enthusiasm. And those who are in a position to know the facts, realize and appreciate her efforts, and their results.

So much for the play and players. Another and extremely important feature is the staging of the play. For that Joseph Buffington, Jr., '18, was responsible, assisted by A. N. Jones, '17. The appearance of the stage testified to his taste and judgment and the quickness of setting the scenes and the efficiency of handling the properties proved his executive ability.

The man higher-up in this case was W. B. George, '16, General Manager of the Association, another veteran of the Jesters, who has worked his way up from Assistant Stage Manager. As a buffer between the different departments and the outside world, he has earned all the praise that he has received, or shall receive.

To the energy and foresight of its president, R. S. Barthelmess, '17, (who is no less enterprising and successful off the stage than on), was due the favorable terms under which the Jesters worked. And he has worked hard and unremittingly with only the success of the Jesters in his mind.

Nobody ever heard of a Vice-President doing any work, but the Vice-President of the Jesters, Alfred Harding, Jr., '16, probably did as much as any Vice-President ever does.

The Secretary-Treasurer-Business-Manager was T. H. Craig. The foregoing title seems almost enough for one single man to live up to, but it was most capably filled by him.

The patronesses for the Jesters were: Mrs. Henry A. Perkins, Mrs. J. J. McCook, Mrs. Robert B. Riggs, Mrs. Frank Cole Babbitt, Mrs. Wilbur Marshall Urban, Mrs. G. A. Kleene, Mrs. J. D. Flynn, Mrs. Charles E. Rogers, Mrs. Horace Cheney Swan, Mrs. Arthur Adams, Mrs. LeRoy C. Barrett, Mrs. A. E. Knowlton, Mrs. Walter L. Barrows, Mrs. Stanley L. Galpin, Mrs. F. W. Carpenter, Mrs. C. L. D. Welling, Mrs. A. B. Stonex, Mrs. Henry Ferguson, Mrs. E. F. Waterman, Mrs. William Hamersley, Mrs. Francis Goodwin, Miss Mary A. Curtis, Mrs. James J. Goodwin, Mrs. P. H. Woodward, Mrs. Chauncey Brewster, Mrs. Frank L. Wilcox, Mrs. Edward B. Hatch, Mrs. G. D. Howell, Mrs. Robert Thorne, Mrs. Joseph Buffington, Mrs. John P. Elton, Mrs. E. Kent Hubbard, Mrs. L. K. Hubbard, Mrs. Walter S. Schutz, Mrs. C. S. Morris, Mrs. J. H. Greene, Mrs. C. C. Beach, Mrs. Bissell, Mrs. J. C. Bulkeley, Mrs. Morgan G. Bulkeley, Mrs. W. E. A. Bulkeley, Mrs. Paul Butterworth, Mrs.

SMASHMIRROR SO-SO.*(Continued from last issue.)*

"That are Omen", I hear rooterist near me snagger. "Trinity will sure win them game now."

Of sudden last part of conflict begin & excitement are intense. Trinity footballers take pigly hide & make eye-aim at gold-sticks, counting stars with fresherman expression as they play, thusly: "Hon. 47-11-63-9". More arithmetick indulged in, thenly Wesleyan get ball & kick it to professionable youth named Brickley, who are more kicked against than kicking. What he do? Are he too proud to fight? He are not. With pigly sphere under his wing & hero expression on his face he run without looking back or paying any intention to Wesleyan footballers who are wishful for him to stop & chat, & soonly he cross gold-line & push ball into ground behind sticks.

What happen then make race riot blush for tameness & European War take back seat in peanut gallery. Speculators blow off cylinder heads & enjoy faker insanity peculiar to Harry Thawly. Nignified professors do funny stunts illustrated on Katzenjammerly page and emit female lung screams & hop around like Hon. American toad. Considerable hug-bunny & trot-wolf devulged in, thank you. Air so full of cheers that breathing are diffickult. Trinity footballers kiss Brickley boy & spit mud from mouths & do turn-over handsprings for gladness & give free exhibit of dance invented by saintly gent named Vitus.

"Rah-rah! That count six more points in Trinity flavor!" rejoice gray-haired speculator with John Druid eyebrowse near me.

"Why it count six when only three players was killed?" are question I ask it; but that antique child too busy with banzais to renig.

Of sudden I glance with question-mark eyebrowse to Wesleyan side of griddle.

"Oh, thunder & lighter! Hague & Hague!" are yell I make for distonishment, with mixed feelings peculiar to sausage. "Looker, Stogie, Hara-kiri are done funny way in New England!" What we astonish to see are Wesleyan rooterists kicking themselves & chewing their wrists, what were fortunate not to have wrist-watch decorations, & getting jiu-jitsu holds on their own necks & biting pieces out of Trinity reel-estate for anger. Between fits Wesleyan rooterist behind my back depress for gloom: "Cloudy & heavy westerly showers." Then he issue bellhop call for Devil & otherly characters not present & groan like fresherman enjoying lodge mysteries & adopt Billy Sunday expression "Hell" while swallowing emotional Adam's apple.

Little dog what had stayed on Wesleyan side till now crossed griddle to Trinity side. Hon. Editor, I'm wishful I had him them dog. He have enlarged brain-box.

Of sudden all is quietness peculiar to economicks lecture room. Footballer with smashy elbows & draped eye & cranium held together with towel lie on seat of stomach and hold pigly hide on grass.

"What are silent acktions footballers enjoy to perform now?" I worry Stogie for answer.

"They try kick gold," is retort for him with cold expression reserved for Jane Addams, who are most popular

woman in America next to Goddess of Liberty.

"Where are this gold?" inflame my tongue for curiositiveness.

"Gold are one-point score, not gent," is dispassionate injection he hurl at me.

So-so. I close lips for disgust & watch nervous excitement with shut-up dignity peculiar to Connie Mack, who carry such a long name that baseballers call him up by chapters. Anti-climax of cheering ensue when Trinity youth kick pigly sphere between posts, & Stogie deform me that Trinity are victorious so far by nine figures.

When all speculators delight to mention Cook-Pearry corporation with scorn becuz of chilly climitt which go through vest with considerable easiness, Hon. foreman issue blast of police whistle & conflick of sudden come to halt peculiar to well-trained German goose-stepper, & Trinity rooterists rush on griddle & put Brickley & other players on shoulders & carry them up hill and rest do delicious snake-dance on field.

"Are it six by Big Ben Clock that feetballers stop work & run awayly when cute whistle blow?" I ask it to know from Stogie.

"Smashamirror", he snort, inhaling Hartford climitt with smack of open-faced nostrils peculiar to hippopotamus, "you take prize as booby; you are proprietor of kindergarten brain; your head enjoy valuable acoustic properties; you are solid marble & squirrels enjoy to munch at you; you run a whole lap ahead in race for biggest fool in land of free & home of get-rich-quickers."

So-so. Madness fill me to brim. My blood gurgle warmly in six languages. Stogie are my cousin by blood-tie, but I consider he are somewhat for rent in his belfry.

Hoping you are the same,

SMASHAMIRROR SO-SO,
(Per T. G. B., '13.)

S. P.—To Hon. Wally Irwin, humoristic American book-author, this are typewroted with delicious apologies & kow-tow peculiar to plagiaristick Japanese schoolboy.

S. S.

COMMUNICATION.

578 Bourse Building,
Philadelphia, Dec. 11, 1915.

To the Editor of the Tripod:

If it is allowable, I should like to add a word to the athletic controversy from the educational point of view. Colleges are supposed to exist for educational purposes, and intercollegiate athletics should be educational. But from President Eliot down, nearly all the best educators of the country have condemned them, and now two institutions, Reed College in Oregon and Clark University in Massachusetts, have abolished intercollegiate athletics altogether. In place of them, Reed College has a very thorough compulsory system of intramural sports, under which all the graduates, and the faculty too, I understand, are compelled to play games.

If our intercollegiate system prevailed in a foreign country, or where we could stand off and look at it, we would be amazed. The gate-money receipts of several of our large institutions had grown to over \$60,000 annually some years ago, and now have far surpassed those figures. Smaller institutions have receipts in proportion. Annual gate-money receipts over \$60,-

000 are equal to the income from their invested funds of many good-sized colleges and far exceed the income of the average American college. The professional coaches in large institutions often, it is said, receive higher salaries than the best-paid professors.

These large sums of money from gate receipts are spent for what? To enable all the undergraduates to play games for exercise? Not at all. They are spent to develop and make conspicuous the football team, the baseball team with their substitutes, and some track athletes,—not usually a hundred in all. The remaining hundreds of thousands of the colleges some years ago got no exercise at all, excepting walks along the streets. They were distinctly discouraged from games of their own, and any attempt at such things was laughed at, because they could never hope to become champions or members of teams.

The system was developed and encouraged by the newspapers and public for the profit and fun they got out of it; and was upon us in full force before we realized it. Before we knew it the public and the newspapers owned the colleges, and had turned them into purveyors of gladiatorial shows to the great amusement of the scholars and universities of Europe.

The system has been superbly organized; and has now become a model of detailed and complicated organization, with immense sums of money and a powerful public opinion behind it. In efficiency of organization there are few college governments or business corporations that are any better. President Eliot, who has denounced the system as much as anybody, as an absurdity and an injury to real education, was powerless to alter it, even in his own university.

A counter current was however started by him and others. Many colleges while admitting themselves powerless to stop the gladiatorial show system, or break the ownership of their property, usurped by the newspapers and sporting public, found that they had power enough left to encourage intramural sports in addition to intercollegiate. The plan was to let the intercollegiate monster alone as too powerful to assail, and try to give a little wholesome outdoor exercise to the mass of undergraduate students who needed it for educational purposes far more than the picked champions on the teams.

This plan has been more or less successful, and united with compulsory gymnastics and medical examination for the freshmen, may be said to be growing in importance. Some colleges succeed better with it than others. In every instance the powerful moneyed intercollegiate system tends to crush it, belittle it, and throw it into the shadow; yet it lives, and struggles on; and it is quite significant that the two colleges already mentioned, Reed and Clark, have had the courage to abolish the intercollegiate system within their own boundaries, and make intramural sports the completely prevailing and controlling system. It is the prevailing system in Europe, and quite obviously the normal natural system, if we are to have educational institutions and not educational laughing stocks.

It would seem as if it ought to be possible to have the intramural the prevailing system, and the intercollegiate incidental and allowed within

limits. This is accomplished in Europe, where one system does not seem to interfere with the other and the intercollegiate is never allowed to swallow up everything. At the great English universities over two-thirds of all the undergraduates are playing games among themselves every afternoon. At the same time, as we know, they have the great intercollegiate rowing event. But our intercollegiate system has gone to such frightful extremes that apparently we can get rid of it only by drastic measures, by such extreme action as Reed and Clark have led the way in taking. In time when the excesses are cut off and we are calm enough to take a common sense view, the two systems may possibly be worked together in harmony.

The boarding schools, which in the last generation or two have increased so much in numbers and efficiency, have found that they must insist more and more, like the English schools, on strictly intramural sport, not for a few that take to it naturally, but for all; and some of them are producing excellent results. In one instance, of a school of 360 boys, only a small number, varying from 10 to 20, failed to take a proper part in the intramural exercises of the year. The schools have been driven to this by obvious necessity; and the colleges must follow in the same path.

We have been following delusions and distractions long enough. As the headmaster of one of the schools said, when the crisis was reached, "We had to decide whether we were an educational institution or a country club." For a college to allow large sums to be collected as gate money and spent for the benefit of nine men on one team and eleven on the other, is a delusion without a parallel in educational history. It would not be tolerated in Europe. Money spent on athletics in English schools and colleges is spent for the benefit of all the students. There are not only ample grounds and opportunity but compulsion. The students all play among themselves without screaming spectators, grandstands, or frantic organization; and a better result is produced. All the students are physically educated, which is "what we are here for."

Our college educational system has running all through it these delusions of immense expenditure and no proportional result. At Harvard a few years ago, it was found that in recent years the number of students had increased fourfold, while the cost of graduating them, had increased seven-fold. Similar results will be found, it is generally believed, in all our colleges. Mr. Birdseye in more severe language shows that buildings and equipment have increased enormously in value, maintenance increased enormously in expense, and the output of graduates deteriorated in quality. Students are two years behind English, French and German boys, and enter life two years later. Our junior class at college is the equivalent of the entering class at Oxford and Cambridge in England. One of the requirements for the Rhodes scholarships offered to Americans at Oxford, is that the candidate should prove a certain physical efficiency, especially in games; and great complaint is made of the failure of our candidates to come up to this requirement. In other words, our candidate is two years behind, mentally and physically unfit. There is our splendid system in a nutshell.

Recent investigations by the Carnegie Foundation showed that in a comparison of the six leading American universities with the six leading ones of Europe, the six American handled 18,500 students a year at a cost of \$5,100,000, or at the rate of \$277 a student per year. The six in Europe handled 43,000 students at an annual cost of only \$3,800,000, or at the rate of \$89 a student per year. Only \$89 a year to produce a student who enters actual life two years ahead of our \$277 nuisance.

Not satisfied with producing an inferior student at three times the cost of a good one, our colleges have been piling up the expenses and extravagances until pretty much all the old endowed Eastern colleges have an annual deficit from \$10,000 to \$60,000, or \$80,000 a year, which, if steadily continued, will wipe them all out of existence. It is the more serious because they are rapidly coming more and more into competition with the powerful Western State universities, which give free education and have the whole tax fund of a commonwealth to draw upon, with the enthusiastic masses of the population for moral support.

Well, this is a long letter for the Tripod, and I have not yet said anything about Mr. Brickley, because under any decent system of athletics the absurdities and inconsistencies about his playing would never have arisen. The college was perfectly right in the stand it took in regard to him. But put it all in your pipes, boys, and smoke it, and let us see what we can do.

SIDNEY G. FISHER, '99.

INTERCOLLEGIATE SOCIALIST SOCIETY.

Students Invited To Attend Convention.

The attention of all collegians interested in social solutions, and especially in the solution presented by the rapidly growing Socialist movement, is earnestly called to the Seventh Annual Convention to be held in New York City, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, December 28-29-30, 1915.

The opening session will be held on Tuesday afternoon, December 28, at 2.30 o'clock, at Miss Stokes' Studio, 90 Grove Street. The meeting will be called to order by Miss Mary R. Sanford, Chairman of the Convention Committee. J. G. Phelps Stokes, president of the Society, will preside. Following the roll-call of the delegates, the Organizing Secretary will give a summary of the year's work and two-minute reports from delegates will be given. A discussion of Chapter problems will follow.

The sessions on Wednesday morning and afternoon will be held at Columbia University by invitation of the Columbia and Barnard Chapters. The 10 a. m. session will be a continuation of the discussion of Chapter problems. After luncheon at the Commons, the Question Box session will take place, conducted by Miss Jessie W. HUGHAN. Questions should be submitted in writing beforehand, and this session will prove, as it always has, one of the most valuable of the Convention.

On Thursday morning, at Miss Stokes' Studio, the session will be for a discussion of the problems of the Alumni Chapters.

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PRESIDENT PERKINS ON PROFESSIONALISM.

Writes for "Yale News."

In last Friday's issue of the *Yale Daily News* there appeared a very interesting article on the eligibility of athletes by Professor Perkins of Trinity.

Professor Perkins is strongly in favor of a ruling by which men may earn money by playing summer baseball, provided they do not play with any of the major or minor leagues. He says in part:

"Unquestionably the ideal situation in athletics would be to have every man play his game for the love of it, and never for pecuniary gain. But, with human nature as it is, we have to face the facts in dealing with athletic conditions as they exist today in our American colleges.

"In my opinion it is better to have no eligibility rule whatsoever, than to have a rule which is likely to be evaded and to generate a spirit of hypocrisy."

Professor Perkins went on to say:

"I hope to see the time when the colleges can agree on a modification of the eligibility rule, so that a man who is enrolled as a bona fide student can secure part of his necessary financial means by playing summer baseball of the unobjectionable type. And by this I mean that he be entitled to play on teams that are not members of any of the major or minor leagues. For it is these last-mentioned leagues which really place the stamp of professionalism on the career and conduct of a man."

In closing Professor Perkins made a very good and just criticism: "An abuse which seems to me more culpable than the minor offenses, which we have now

come to term professionalism, is the offering on the part of certain colleges of scholarships to prominent school athletes. And so I say, that when we strive toward a settlement of the eligibility situation, we have to realize that there are a good many things more blameworthy than the actual stigma of minor professionalism."

PENNANTS TO BE AWARDED FOR BEST SALE OF RED CROSS SEALS.

The sale of Red Cross Christmas seals began two weeks ago, and many reports show that there will be a successful season. About fifty agents are working for the campaign in the state, and with the best two weeks of the sale still to come, the State Tuberculosis Commission anticipates the largest sale Connecticut has ever realized.

The American Red Cross and the National Association for the Study and prevention of Tuberculosis will again award pennants to the ten classes of counties, towns, cities and villages selling the largest number of Red Cross Seals per capita.

In order to make the competition even, the various communities have been grouped, according to their population, into ten classes, viz.: from 300 to 600; from 600 to 1200; from 1200 to 2000; from 2000 to 8000; from 8000 to 25,000; from 25,000 to 50,000; from 50,000 to 150,000; from 150,000 to 500,000; from 500,000 to 1,000,000; and over 1,000,000. A especially prepared pennant will be given the community in each class selling the largest number of seals.

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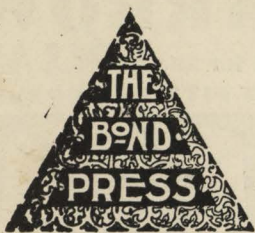
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The management wishes to express its appreciation and thanks to the following for their kindness in aiding in the production of "A Gentleman of Leisure": Mrs. H. A. Smith, Mrs. C. C. Beach, The Trinity College Union, Brown, Thomson Co., The Sedgwick & Casey Co., The Palace Theater, The Spruce Street Settlement, and the Hartford Club.

In such an extended and hurried review there may be errors or omissions. For such as exist pardon is requested with the assurance that they are unintentional.

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INTERCLASS DEBATES NEXT WEEK.

Organization Complete at Last.

The teams which will represent the various classes in the inter-class debates have finally been chosen, and the debates will be held next week. On Monday night the Sophomore team composed of Harris (captain), Easland, and Blease, will meet the freshman team composed of Antupitzky (captain), Gurian and Cho-Chun, in the public speaking room at 7.30 p. m. The subject under discussion will be: *Resolved*, That a constitutional amendment should be secured, giving to the federal government exclusive control over divorces.

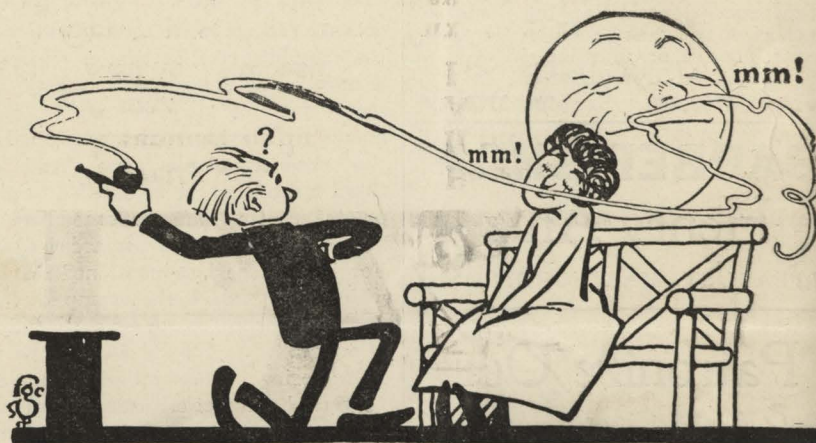
On Tuesday evening the senior team composed of R. Z. Johnston, English, Mitchell, and Caulfield, will debate against the junior team composed of Raccioppi, Parker, Hatch, and Schlier, on the following subject: *Resolved*, That an eight-hour working day should be adopted within the United States by law.

NOTICE.

The annual meeting of the Hartford Alumni Association of Trinity College will be held at the University Club, Lewis Street, Monday, December 20, at 8.30 p. m.

An informal discussion of Trinity's eligibility stand in athletics will follow. Refreshments will be served. No assessment.

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